
The Modernizing of the Orient by Clayton Sedgwick Cooper

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and has been attended by all those "evils of disorganization and unjust distribution" of wealth which constitute the political and social problem of the West. The most ominous factor in her development is her government. Monarchic in form, bureaucratic in reality, it is attempting to block the way toward democratic control and the effective organization and direction of public opinion.

The Modernizing of the Orient. By CLAYTON SEDGWICK COOPER.
New York: McBride, Nast and Company. 1914. Pp. 353.

The contact of East and West and the changes, incongruous as so many of them are, which are the result of western ideas at work among eastern peoples, form one of the most interesting studies of a journey around the world. Mr. Cooper's travels took him into Egypt, where he was particularly interested in the educational system with its contrast between the old and the new. Even more striking is the contrast in India between the activities of the Gaekwar of Baroda, one of the most progressive of the leaders of modern India, who has established compulsory education in his province, has started a state library with numerous branch and traveling libraries, is putting into use cinematograph machines and is going as far as he can in the breaking down of caste feeling; and the Gurukula, the training school of the Arya-Samaj, which rejects practically everything of western education. The traditional Indian system of education, adopted in the hope of stemming the western tide, while it develops high moral qualities, does not give the utilitarian training which alone will fit its young men for leadership in twentieth century India.

Of the Philippines Mr. Cooper speaks without enthusiasm. Our occupation of the islands is characterized as "one of the most incongruous and unsatisfactory enterprises" in American history and one which of necessity must be long continued. There is need of American capital for the development of the Philippines but it is difficult to secure investments because of the risks involved and the ever-present problem of labor. Much more attractive is the picture of Japan where Mr. Cooper was successful in getting away from the modernizing influences into unspoiled rural Japan. The book is the record of a traveler's impressions of the Near and Far East.